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WKU Student Affairs

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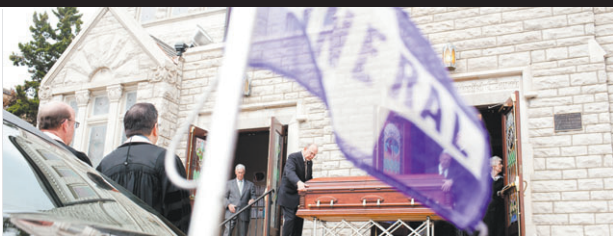
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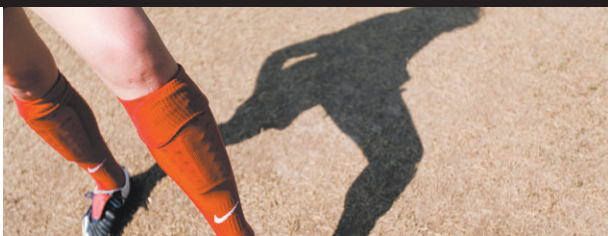
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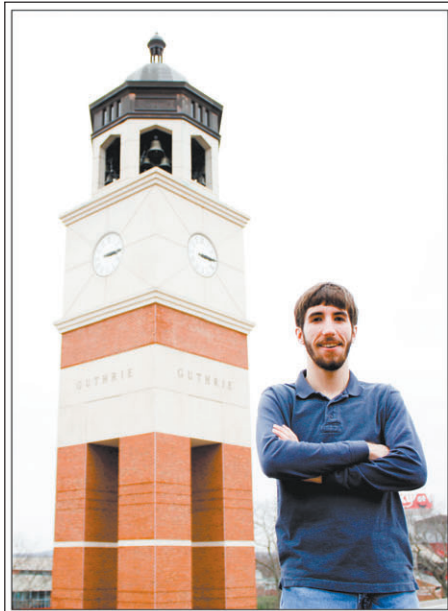
DODGEBALL HOST NATIONALS | PAGE 3B



DOWNING CELEBRATED | 3A



TORN DREAMS | SPORTS SECTION (B)



ABBEY OLDHAM/HERALD

Bowling Green freshman Nathaniel Brown plays the keyboard that controls the Guthrie bells on Friday. Brown plays the bells twice a month and often chooses the songs he plays.

BEHIND THE BELLS

Student plays bells at Guthrie twice a month

By ALEXIS CUSTARD
diversions@chherald.com

Many people probably hear the bells playing from Guthrie Bell Tower as they make their way through campus. But they might not know that sometimes, someone is actually playing them.

Bowling Green freshman Nathaniel Brown started playing the bells last semester as a part of the Mitzi Groom Scholarship that he received.

Brown plays the bells twice a month, usually on Fridays at 3 p.m. Sometimes Mitzi Groom, the music department head, plays the bells.

Most of the time, though, they're set on a timer to play automatically, Brown said.

The bells are played on the top floor of the Academic Complex with the help of an electronic manual keyboard, he said. When they play automatically, the keyboard is hooked to a computer.

"When I play, there is about a half-second delay, so I usually have to play

“

The way that the bells harmonize and the music flows together throughout the campus is beautiful. It's amazing to know that someone so talented can create such a masterpiece."

—AMANDA NEWMAN
LaGrange senior

pretty slowly," Brown said. "The door I open leads to the roof so I can see and hear it in my line of vision."

SEE BELLS, PAGE 3A

WKU will repair five steam lines this summer

By KATHERINE WADE
news@chherald.com

WKU officials have determined that construction on broken steam lines around campus would be more aesthetically unpleasing than the constant leaks now, such as the one outside Minton Hall.

Five broken steam lines will be replaced this summer, said Bryan Russell, director of Planning, Design and Construction.

President Gary Ransdell said the project was saved until the summer because of the inconvenience it may bring people on campus.

"It's just going to be ugly and disruptive," he said.

The process involves digging up steam pipes in five different locations: between Minton Hall and Downing University Center, by Bemis Lawrence Hall and Barnes-Campbell Hall, by Wetherby Administration Building and Potter Hall, by Bates-Runner Hall and at the steam plant itself.

SEE STEAM, PAGE 7A

WKU's hours could change this summer

By KATHERINE WADE
news@chherald.com

WKU is considering changing its summer operating hours to 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. to save on air conditioning costs. In previous summers, the university has stayed open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

John Osborne, vice president of Campus Services and Facilities, said the university plans to make an official announcement within the next week.

President Gary Ransdell said the new schedule has not been announced because officials are still collecting feedback.

"We've run the numbers and studied the data, and the highest concentrated use and peak hours of billing for energy ... is the mid-to-late afternoon hours during the late summer," he said.

SEE SUMMER, PAGE 8A

Student makes friend, crosses cultural lines

By MERCEDES TRENT
diversions@chherald.com

When Louisville junior Michael Marcell patrolled Iraq as a Marine in 2006, he had no idea a future classmate and friend was there too, experiencing the other side of occupation.

Marcell is studying abroad at American University in Dubai, where he met 20-year-old Haneen Assaf, a Palestinian refugee from Jenin, a city in the West Bank.

Assaf lived in Baghdad with her family at the same time Marcell was there with the military. Her father was a Palestinian ambassador.

In addition to being displaced from her home in the West Bank, Assaf experienced other trauma, Marcell said in a Skype interview.

Friends of hers were killed by American soldiers.

Assaf said in an email interview that she wasn't afraid of Marcell when he first spoke to her in their Middle Eastern Religions class at American University in Dubai, where both are currently studying.

Instead, Assaf was surprised when Marcell greeted her with, "Salam alaikum," a common Arabic greeting.

She discovered that he was interested in improving his Arabic and then decided to give him daily 50-minute classes to teach him Arabic. Then, she said, they became real friends.

Marcell is grateful for Assaf's grace toward foreigners.

SEE CULTURAL, PAGE 8A

Let the games begin



DELAYNA EARLEY/HERALD

Members of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity perform the step portion of their routine during Spring Sing on Sunday evening. The fraternity did a routine with songs inspired by the game Bop It!.

For more on Spring Sing **see Diversions**, page 10A



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wkuherald.com/calendar

The Herald publishes a calendar in print every Tuesday and online every day. Submit your events to calendar@chherald.com. Deadline for the Tuesday print calendar is noon Monday. For more events visit wkuherald.com/calendar

tuesday

Student Government Association senate meeting, 5 p.m., Downing University Center 305

wednesday

College of Health and Human Services Majors and Minors Fair, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., DUC courtyard
Baseball vs. Murray State, 6 p.m., Nick Denes Field
Author Larry Swedroe, 6 p.m., Carroll Knicely Conference Center
 The bestselling author will discuss his latest book, "The Quest for Alpha: The Holy Grail of Investing."
Journalist and Author Novella Carpenter, 7 p.m., Kentucky Building
 Carpenter's book, "Farm City: The Education of an Urban Farmer," describes her extensive garden in a rundown California neighborhood.

thursday

First Amendment Free Food Festival, 10:45 a.m. to 2 p.m., Centennial Mall
 Free food for anyone who volunteers to sign away their First Amendment rights.
Chemistry Club, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Thompson Complex Central Wing 425
Chess Tournament, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Garrett Conference Center ballroom
"The Soloist," 7 p.m. on South Lawn
 Institute for Citizenship and Social Responsibility and Housing and Residence Life are sponsoring the food and the screening of this movie.
"A Taste of Honey," 8 p.m., Gordon Wilson Lab Theatre. This play follows a young woman trying to find her way through life and love in working-class England.

friday

Baseball vs. Arkansas State, 6 p.m., Nick Denes Field
Opera Theater — "Crossing Over: The Classical Singer Goes to Broadway," 7:30 p.m., fine arts center 189
"A Taste of Honey," 8 p.m., Gordon Wilson Lab Theatre. This play follows a young woman trying to find her way through life and love in working-class England.

saturday

Southern Kentucky Book Fest, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Carroll Knicely Conference Center
Opera Theater — "Crossing Over: The Classical Singer Goes to Broadway," 3 p.m., fine arts center 189
Baseball vs. Arkansas State, 3 p.m., Nick Denes Field
Gamers' Guild Meeting, 5 p.m. to 10:45 p.m., DUC 310
"A Taste of Honey," 8 p.m., Gordon Wilson Lab Theatre. This play follows a young woman trying to find her way through life and love in working-class England.

sunday

Baseball vs. Arkansas State, 1 p.m., Nick Denes Field
"A Taste of Honey," 3 p.m., Gordon Wilson Lab Theatre
 This play follows a young woman trying to find her way through life and love in working-class England.

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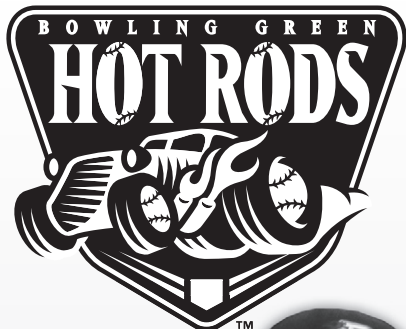


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CRIME REPORTS

Arrests

■ Andrew Carter, Bowling Green, was arrested April 9 for driving with a suspended license, failing to answer court summons, having expired registration plates and failing to maintain insurance. He was released the same day on a \$395 cash bond.
 ■ David Learned, Bowling Green, was arrested April 9 for alcohol intoxication in a public place. He was released the same day on time served. He is the Herald's advertising manager.
 ■ Tyreggis Scott, Barnes-Campbell Hall, was arrested April 8 for disorderly conduct after WKU police received several calls complaining of loud people outside Poland Hall. He was released the next day on a \$1,020 cash bond.



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The vision is hope, and hope is real

Hundreds celebrate Downing's life at funeral Friday

By COLE CLAYBOURN
news@chherald.com

When Dero Downing came to WKU as a freshman in the fall of 1939, he began a practice of sending his parents a steady stream of hand-written letters.

By 1944, when Downing joined the Navy amidst World War II, his letter-writing had become a habit, and he wrote to his wife, Harriet Downing, every day he was allowed.

Once Downing returned from the war in 1945, he never stopped writing letters. Downing wrote to his family, his friends, his colleagues, someone he thought could use a word of encouragement, or even someone he thought deserved a note of praise.

His impact on people's lives was evident, as more than 600 people gathered at State Street United Methodist Church on Friday to celebrate the life of WKU's fourth president, who passed away on Monday at the age of 89.

When Reverend Rick Bard asked those in attendance who had ever received a letter from Downing of any sort, many in attendance raised their hands.

"His letters were a labor

of love," Bard said during Friday's service.

Bard's message, titled "One More Letter," conveyed the notion that Downing had one last letter to write — one that's meant for everyone.

But the letters were just one way that Downing touched the lives of so many he came across daily.

His daughter, Elizabeth Downing, told a story about a time when she was pregnant with her daughter, Goodman. It was late in the winter months, and she needed a winter coat, but she didn't like the idea of buying a new coat just for the few remaining weeks of winter.

"So Daddy offered me his coat," she said. "He bought it in 1947. It was his most prized possession. That winter, that coat wrapped me and my baby girl with love and warmth from my daddy."

Fourteen years later, she said she still wears that coat.

"Each of his children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews, brothers or sisters has his or her own version of that coat — of Daddy's love and gracefulness," Elizabeth Downing said.

Bard recited a Bible

passage from the book of Ephesians in which Paul says not to be selfish, but to be humble and think of others as better than yourself.

Downing became well-known during his time as an administrator for patrolling the WKU campus and cleaning up any litter he found along his way. After he was done with that, he could be seen stopping students in buildings or on their way to class just to get to know them.

Even until the end, Downing hadn't changed his ways.

"We could be up in the College Heights Foundation building outside of (his son) Alex's office, and he'd stop someone right there," Bard said. "He'd ask them where they were from or what their major was. He just wanted to get to know people."

Bard said people tried to tell Downing that, in this day and age, students might find that encroaching on their lives.

"It changed nothing. He kept going," he said, laughing.

Downing's grandson, Donald Smith, said moments like that stuck out more than anything to him and Downing's 12 other grandchildren.



JERRY ENGLEHART JR./HERALD

Harriet Downing, the late Dero Downing's wife, leaves the church behind her husband's casket before he is taken to his final resting place at the Fairview Cemetery on Friday.

"He taught us so much about character, integrity, relationships, perseverance, humility, a kindness and love," Smith said. "But we learned all of that through much more than his words. We learned it through his actions."

Even if Downing didn't agree with something someone was doing, he'd take a gentle approach to it. President Gary Ransdell remembered one particular case earlier in his tenure as president where such an instance occurred.

"He didn't like the Rally Alleys too much at the baseball field," Ransdell said.

Rally Alleys, which run down the first- and third-base lines at Nick Denes Field, sell concessions — including alcoholic beverages.

"I told him it's a different time and a different era, and I trusted our young people," Ransdell said. "I told them if you treat the students as adults, most of the time they'll act like adults. He had to nod

his agreement to that."

In his closing remarks, Bard reminded those in attendance to always remember the way in which Downing lived his life and how he treated others.

"Write a letter, sing a song, praise God and lift someone up," he said. "Make their day brighter and their load lighter. Live with passion and a vision that will outlast you. That is what our friend, our mentor, our life coach Dero Downing did."

BELLS

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Though Brown just plays twice a month, he spends time on weekends arranging the music to play, he said.

He has been given a few selections, including patriotic songs and WKU's fight song, to play, but as long as it's appropriate for the time of year or something people would be familiar with, he

can play it, he said.

"I don't play music written for the carillon (bells)," he said. "I take well-known melodies and harmonize them myself on a music sheet. I try to make the music specific to the holiday."

Bowling Green sophomore Anna Beth Gillon met Brown at a birthday party over the summer and got the chance to witness him playing the bells.

"The first time I got to see him play, I thought it was awesome and

a great experience," Gillon said. "I never knew it was someone in a separate room playing, and it's really cool that he gets to do that."

Although Brown loves playing the bells, it's often hard to come up with material, and sometimes he wants to play songs that aren't technically possible because they would sound "messy" on the bells, he said.

"I have to practice a lot and think really hard about appropriate selections," Brown said.

LaGrange senior Amanda Newman said the bell tower was one of the first things she noticed when she came to WKU.

She said the bells make WKU different from other campuses, and sometimes she just listens to them to relax.

"The way that the bells harmonize and the music flows together throughout the campus is beautiful," Newman said. "It's amazing to know that someone so talented can create

such a masterpiece."

Brown plans on playing the bells for as long as the scholarship allows him to, but he's not sure when that time is up.

"I think it's really neat to play something that resonates all over campus and part of town," Brown said. "I play a recital that everyone in the whole area of town listens to, and I think it's an honor to play this instrument in such a grand monument."

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STAFF EDITORIAL



2011 DARREN VOGT

Use your rights

Students should voice opinions about campus issues

THE ISSUE: Despite student complaints, there is a painful lack of student participation in important campus life activities.

OUR STANCE: Students should be more proactive in keeping up with current campus events and engaging in them.

Apathy among students has been demonstrated in several aspects of campus life from game attendance to guest lectures, and most recently in the lackluster voting totals of the Student Government Association elections.

The WKU Quick Facts Page lists the student population as 20,712 as of fall 2009. Out of all those potential voices, only 1,066 students exercised theirs in the SGA presidential election.

For whatever reasons, students seem uninterested in political involvement, though the leaders make powerful decisions that affect all students. Perhaps students don't know what influence lies within SGA or the kind of support it offers students and student groups. But without the participation of the people it is meant to serve, SGA can only offer so much without seeming favorable toward certain groups or projects.

As students continue to ignore opportunities for input — elections, surveys, feedback forums — they limit the reach of bodies like SGA in serving the whole campus.

Essentially, an overall lack of participation leads to the same small group of students fighting for issues to benefit their individual agendas. And if the same people are involved time and again, SGA's energy, funding and support will be poured into the same or similar causes each year, which keeps the growth of student life at a standstill.

Furthermore, if the same leaders are holding the decision-making positions, there will likely be little room for a difference in thinking. This is not to say the current SGA leaders are doing anything wrong. But, for instance, two of the three executive positions were unopposed in the most recent election. And there were also only 35 candidates competing for 36 senate seats.

Ideally, there should be a level of competition and challenge to incumbent officers from new, active students. But since there is not, SGA representatives become

repetitive, which also might contribute to students' complacency.

Many students complain but only a few take an active interest in working with student groups that have the power to change things. The Herald thinks some students are unaware of the impact groups like SGA can have. Others are aware and simply don't care. The SGA president, for example, is on the Board of Regents, which makes decisions that effect the entire student body.

While responsibility lies with both sides — the students to be more active and the student groups to promote more creatively — there has to be an improvement from only about one in 20 students engaging in political culture.

We encourage each student to first seek information about their rights on campus and, secondly, to act on them. Otherwise, they will be caught in situations they might disagree with, having no one to blame but themselves.

This editorial represents the majority opinion of the Herald's 10-member editorial board.

the VENT

Something on your mind?
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KATERRA BORKOWSKI
Covington
sophomore

"The smoking ban? Give it up. If the people are outside and it's therapeutic to smoke, let them smoke. If it gets in your face, move away."



WHITNEY REED
Louisville
freshman

"The pasta line should just use broccoli every day; not everyone likes the peas. I need to have at least one green vegetable a day, and those peas are messing it up."



JEREMY COX
Paducah senior

"I've been here for four years, and tuition goes up every year. It's sad that we really have no choice but to continue school. And there's a lot to gain here, but it's just too high."

have an opinion?

Write a letter to the editor (250 words or less) or a commentary (500 words and a photo). E-mail them to opinion@chherald.com.

COMMENTARY

Americans need to examine spending habits

Why do we buy things when we are painfully aware that we can't afford them? And why does the economic 'big picture' seem to have such a negligible influence on our spending habits?

These are important questions that are particularly relevant to college students, whose spending habits can often be characterized as less than ideal.

If you want to get a handle on why you spend money you don't have, I'd like to recommend you pick up a copy of "Shoptimism: Why the American Consumer Will Keep on Buying no Matter What" by Lee Eisenberg.

I ran across this book in the bargain section of Barnes & Noble a couple of weeks ago. Even though I really didn't

need it, it was so inexpensive I couldn't pass it up — which actually gets to the essence of what Eisenberg is talking about.

The author argues that shopping is much more fundamental to who we are as a culture than is often recognized. Rather than being motivated by necessity, he notes that many Americans buy for status, a fondness for the unique, and for the social and emotional benefits that we seem to derive through the simple act of purchasing things.

According to Eisenberg, most consumers can be categorized as classic buyers or romantic buyers. Classic buyers tend to be very price conscious and practical; they have a definite preference for 'tried and true' products. Romantic buyers, on the other hand, love to have more choices, like extra features, and have an affinity for products that are 'new and different.'

A point Eisenberg makes repeatedly is that impulsive buying is continuing to increase in American society — the recent

economic downturn notwithstanding. A contributing factor to this trend has been the explosive proliferation credit cards have experienced since their introduction in 1949.

Eisenberg also documents how excessive shopping can be considered an unhealthy addiction. But unlike other self-destructive behaviors, uninhibited spending tends to be sanctioned and even actively promoted by many societal institutions.

In a discussion on the reasons people spend money on nonessentials, he uses model railroading enthusiasts to illustrate an important point. Employing Abraham Maslow's theory of the hierarchy of needs, he explains how spending money on this kind of pastime provides a connection to the real world, fulfills the need for love and belonging, self-esteem, and, ultimately, self-actualization.

"Shoptimism" also contains several fascinating — and potentially controversial — marketing research findings. For instance, the author cites studies show-

ing how the Jewish community patronizes nightclubs more than Protestants or Catholics, how African Americans buy a lower percentage of ground and whole-bean coffee than non-African Americans, and how women who work in offices are more likely to wish they had 'different faces' than women who live on farms.

On the surface, these kinds of examples may appear to be irrelevant, but Eisenberg shows how advertisers routinely use this information to effectively tap into specific markets — and entice you to buy things you may or may not really need.

So if you are not too busy shopping, I highly recommend reading "Shoptimism." If nothing else, it will give you a better understanding of how we are all being constantly manipulated by marketers and advertisers in ways that seldom cross our minds.

This commentary doesn't necessarily represent the views of the Herald or the university.

college heights herald

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1. Letters shouldn't exceed 250 words. Commentaries should be about 500 words and include a picture.
2. Originality counts. Please don't submit plagiarized work.

3. For verification, letters and commentaries MUST include your name, phone number, home town and classification or title.
4. Letters may not run in every edition due to space.
5. The Herald reserves the right to edit all letters for style, grammar, length and clarity. The Herald does NOT print libelous submissions.
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WKU retitles positions as associate VPs

By ELIZABETH BEILMAN
news@chherald.com

With a fairly new provost comes a new way of running things.

Gordon Emslie, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, recommended at the open forum March 25 that certain divisions be remodeled.

Among those was his own — the office of the provost.

Per Emslie’s suggestions, Richard Miller, associate vice president for Academic Affairs and chief diversity officer, will become vice provost.

Miller will also act as the provost in Emslie’s absence.

“I’m going to have pretty much the same responsibilities as before,” Miller said.

These responsibilities include faculty policies and procedures, working with department heads and deans and dealing with personnel-related matters, he said.

“The only real change is that the Student Publications will now fall under me,” Miller said.

Dale Brown of Enrollment Management, Mike Dale of Academic Budgets and Administration, Sylvia Gaiko of Planning and Program Development, Beth

Laves of Extended Learning and Outreach, and Doug McElroy of Academic Enrichment and Effectiveness will all become associate vice presidents for their divisions.

Associate vice presidents report to vice presidents, who report to the president of the university.

“Since I didn’t want to make any one area more important than the other, it’s appropriate all the individuals have the same title,” Emslie said.

He said changes in titles will not result in changes in salaries.

An Academic Affairs Executive Team, made up of the provost, vice provost and associate provost for Graduate and Advanced Studies, will be created.

“We’re primarily an advisory team to the provost on a variety of matters,” Miller said.

The forensics program, Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science, Honors College, and the Office of International Programs will still report to Emslie directly.

Kelly Madole, professor of psychology and chair of the University Senate, said the reorganization is a natural outcome of having a new provost.

“He has a very different management, so this fits better with his management style,” Madole said.

REORGANIZATIONS RECOMMENDED

Emslie and Baylis recommended at the forum that the following university divisions be reorganized for efficiency and transparency.

■ Office of the Provost

Richard Miller will become vice provost.

Heads of Enrollment Management, Academic Budgets and Administration, Planning and Program Development, Extended Learning and Outreach, and Academic Enrichment and Effectiveness will be associate vice presidents.

■ Applied Research and Technology Program

ARTP will be expanded beyond Ogden College of Science and Engineering to make research a university focus.

The program will be headed by the associate vice president for Research, now filled at the interim level by Blaine Ferrell, dean of Ogden College.

■ Office of Graduate Studies and Research

This division will become the School for Graduate and Advanced Studies.

An associate provost for Graduate and Advanced Studies, which will be temporarily filled at the interim capacity by Richard Bowker, and associate vice president for Research will both head the school.

■ University Libraries and the Division of Information Technology

The heads of these two divisions plus Robbin Taylor, vice president for Public Affairs, will explore three areas of the divisions for a potential integration.

These are a combination of

“Information Resources” models, transition of the Kentucky Museum and preservation of the roles of Libraries faculty.

■ Commonwealth School

The school as an administrative body has been eliminated, and its divisions will become departments under University College.

■ Center for Research and Development

Doug Rohrer, now director of the center, will become associate vice president for Research and Development.

The Small Business Development Center will also move to the center.

■ Office of Compliance

This division will be moved to the Office of Research.

“That means a lot of people have to adjust to a new style.”

Madole said it will take time to see whether the new reorganiza-

tion is functioning efficiently.

But Emslie reiterated that no new positions have been created, but he instead retitled ex-

isting spots.

“That just makes everyone of equal standing upon the executive team,” he said.

Uncontested elections don’t concern SGA

By MIKE STUNSON
news@chherald.com

Just one race was contested in last week’s Student Government Association spring elections, but current President Colton Jessie said he isn’t worried about the strength of next year’s executive branch.

“This year there weren’t as many people willing to step up,” Jessie said. “But everything worked out, and we have a great future (executive board).”

Billy Stephens defeated Di-

ego Leal Ambriz for SGA president, while Kendrick Bryan won the executive vice president race uncontested after Katie Stillwell dropped out of the race. Devon Hilderbrandt ran unopposed for the administrative vice president position.

Stephens said that, given the circumstances, the elections went fairly well.

“If Stillwell would have ran that election would have been close,” he said. “And I don’t think anybody else wanted to run for AVP because Devon was the best

candidate and everyone knew.”

Jessie said there are never a lot of people that run for executive roles because of the time commitment.

“Those positions are a whole lot of work, and a lot of people in our organization are in other clubs,” he said. “It’s a big commitment, so I can understand why not a lot of people ran.”

The senate elections were also uncontested, as just 35 students ran for the 36 seats. It looked as if the race was going to be contested, but Jessie said two students were

declared ineligible to run due to grades.

Jessie said fall senate elections are usually more competitive than spring elections.

“This is a busy time of year, and people are focused on other things,” he said. “But when students come back in the fall, they seem to be more energized and more willing to join organizations.”

Stephens said he will be working with Bryan and the future public relations chair to market SGA. The goal is to convince more stu-

dents to join the organization in the fall.

“I’ve been going around organizations talking to people, and we will do the same thing next semester,” Stephens said. “We will work hand in hand to get the word out about SGA.”

Bryan said new marketing partnerships will help SGA generate more applications. He mentioned Students in Free Enterprise, the American Marketing Association and Imagewest as groups SGA could work with in the future to raise visibility.

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Bowling Green, KY

WKU offering fly fishing trip this summer

By TAYLOR HARRISON
news@chherald.com

WKU’s American Traveler program is hosting a fly fishing trip to Missoula, Mont., from July 18-23.

“The trip to Montana should be a great experience,” said Raymond Poff, recreation administration director. “That area is kind of iconic for fly fishing.”

Poff and Jerry Barnaby, study away program director, formed the trip through American Traveler, which is a non-credit version of study away.

Poff will be going on the trip to assist, as he’s been fly fishing since he was an undergraduate student.

The trip’s \$2,590 fee covers everything from equipment to lodging and meals, as well as advice from expert

“The trip to Montana should be a great experience. That area is kind of iconic for fly fishing.”

—RAYMOND POFF
Recreation administration director

fly fishers in the area. It doesn’t cover transportation to Montana.

“When the university announced the Study Away and American Traveler program, I automatically knew that developing a fly fishing American Trav-

eler program would be something that I would be interested in doing and that there was probably an interest with our faculty, staff, and alumni,” Poff said.

Barnaby said WKU could accept as many as 10 or 12 to go on the trip with a minimum of five people. He said the trip would be cheaper than it would be if one took the same trip on his or her own.

There will be one fly fishing guide for every two travelers, according to a WKU press release on the trip.

While Poff will be going on the trip, Barnaby is handling registration, which is underway now.

Non-WKU students are eligible for the trip, and Barnaby said many have asked about taking children. Though there is no requirement, Poff recommended taking children no younger

than 10 or 12.

Poff instructs a 3-hour May term fly fishing class for credit. There will also be a fly fishing workshop on April 16 that focuses on casting technique. Both workshops are available to all.

While the courses are offered, Poff said that no experience is necessary to go on the Montana trip this summer. Because there will be guides on the trip, beginners can come as well as people with fly fishing experience.

Barnaby said the trip will consist of about 12 hours a day on the water, with the exception of Wednesday, which the group will spend doing something else as a “down day.”

Barnaby said he may go on the trip, as well, to document it.

“We’re going to play it by ear,” he said.

STEAM

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Russell said it was not unusual for steam to erupt from manholes on the ground, but this past winter, there has been a lot more coming from the ground.

“When they catastrophically fail, like at DUC, it becomes very obvious that, ‘Oh my goodness, we have a real problem here,’” he said.

Russell said the engineering work on the replacement project is complete and now has been put up for competitive bidding.

“We held our first pre-bid conference last week, and we had good coverage of potential bidders,” he said.

Russell said the company with the lowest, most qualified bid will be selected. Once these bids are in, WKU will choose the winning company on April 19, and then the construction will begin. The replacement should be done before school starts back in August.

John Osborne, vice-president of Campus Services and Facilities, said WKU is working on more steam-

related projects this summer compared to previous summers.

“We did several last summer, but we’re doing much more this summer,” he said. “It’s one of those situations where we’re just trying to keep up.”

Once the old pipes are removed, new ones will be installed.

This construction is funded by WKU’s critical needs allotment, money set aside to fix things such as steam lines and roofs, Russell said.

Osborne said the project will cost close to \$1 million.

Russell said the pipe replacement is necessary because of aging infrastructure on campus.

“These pipes have been in the ground up to 50 years, and they have just deteriorated from the outside and the inside due to nature,” he said.

Russell said every year, the Facilities Management department pressure tests the lines and identifies the lines that need to be repaired. He said this year, failures appeared even though they had been tested.

“Catastrophic failures like that just happen like breaks on a car,” he said. “Even if you inspect them.”

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‘A Taste of Honey’ offers taste of performance art

By KEVIN ALLEN
news@chherald.com

The theatre department’s latest production offers an exploration of both the beautiful and dark moments in life with “A Taste of Honey.”

The play tells the story of Josephine, known as Jo, a young woman living in 1950s Britain who finds love and friendship as well as hatred and betrayal, said William Leonard, professor emeritus of theatre and director of the show.

“Lots of people live in a land of milk and honey, while some people who are less fortunate only get a taste of honey,” Leonard said.

Louisville senior Liz Floore, who plays Jo’s mother, said the

play is about how expectations for dealing with people don’t always come true.

“It’s about relationships, really,” Floore said. “About how even relationships you expect to last forever, like mother-daughter relationships, those don’t even last.”

The play also deals with the social issues of the time, many of which are still being dealt with today, such as race, homosexuality and social class, said Will Meredith, a Bowling Green senior who plays Jo’s roommate.

The play is not all serious, Meredith said. It balances the harsh realities of Jo’s situation with a dark sense of humor and several happy and touching moments.

Tyrone Moore, a Nashville

sophomore who plays Jo’s boyfriend, said the play primarily deals with the dangers of growing up too quickly.

“Enjoy your youth while you have it,” Moore said. “When you get a baby, get a job, that is when the responsibilities really kick in.”

Moore said he sees a lot of himself in his character, and people will enjoy the play because everyone can see themselves or someone they know in the play.

“A Taste of Honey” will run from Thursday through next Tuesday in the Gordon Wilson Lab Theatre. It will start at 8 p.m. every day except for Sunday, when it will start at 3 p.m.

Tickets cost \$11 for adults and \$9 for students.

NEWS BRIEF

Two authors will speak on campus Wednesday

Two authors will be on campus Wednesday night.

Author Novella Carpenter will be presenting and signing her

book “Farm City: The Education of an Urban Farmer” in the Kentucky Building.

The event starts at 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

Bestselling author and national speaker Larry Swedroe will

present “The Quest for Alpha: The Holy Grail of Investing” at the Carroll Knically Conference Center auditorium, Room 138.

The event is from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

—Joanna Williams

CULTURAL

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

“Despite all her trauma, she doesn’t hold any grudges against me,” Marcell said. “I think that’s really decent of her.”

For Assaf, it’s just the way she is.

“For me, I have no problem having a friendship with a foreign person,” Assaf said. “I am an open minded person when it comes to meeting and getting to know others.”

Marcell admires Assaf’s character.

“She uses her faith as a source of strength,” Marcell said. “She always remains positive and is always saying ‘Alhamdulillah,’ ‘thanks be to God.’ She never complains. She has every right to complain, but she never does.”

Coming from different backgrounds can add a different dimension to the situation, said Soleiman Kiasatpour, an associate professor who teaches Middle Eastern Studies.

“There are other stories, international relations and context, they both find themselves in,” he said. “Different cultures with conflicts may make it more difficult to have a friendship.”

Marcell knows first-hand the conflicts that can endanger a culturally crossed friendship from his experience in the Marines.

“I got to see a lot through the perspective of someone in the military,” Marcell said. “In Iraq, things were pretty simple — you had a mission to do, and you did it. It never really struck me that I could find someone on the other side of it.”

Assaf also said her conceptions about other cultures have been challenged by her friendship with Marcell.

“I learned not to judge people before meeting them,” Assaf said. “Before I met Michael, I used to have, like any person, a stereotypical idea about Americans and their lifestyle. But after many talks I found out that these stereotypical ideas were wrong, so from that time I learned not to make any perceptions about any people before talking and meeting real examples.”

Assaf said that there are differences between them, but she doesn’t believe it negatively affects their friendship.

“It was easy for me and him to be friends because we both are educated and social, and we know what we want,” Assaf said. “And that’s important, because sometimes we had

some conflict in opinions and points of view, but these conflicts never affected our friendship. We respect strongly each other’s religion and cultural differences.”

Still, the two friends do have their personal differences.

“We argue sometimes, about the way things are,” Marcell said. “She’s a lot more optimistic than I am.”

Assaf continues to teach Marcell about Arabic and life.

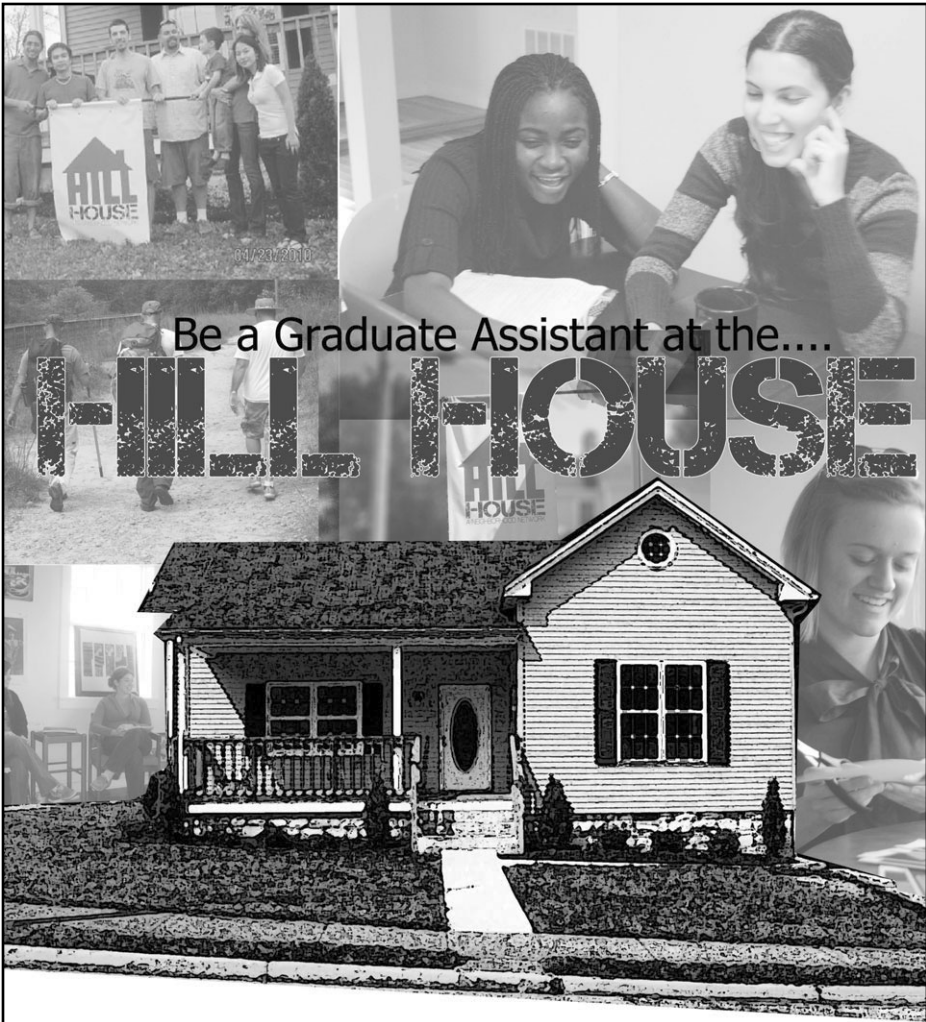
Assaf, who writes poetry about her life experiences, is also an aspiring journalist who Marcell believes has more stories to tell.

“I’d love for her to be able to come to WKU and read her poetry,” he said. “You don’t have so many people who can come and relate what really happened to them.”

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SING

CONTINUED FROM DIVERSIONS

“It’s an exhausting process,” Goble said. Eleven groups on Sunday competed before a 15-minute intermission. Among those groups was Phi Gamma Delta, or the Fijis. Nashville senior Aly Kuhn said she helped the Fijis out with their routine. “They knew I danced and asked me to help,” she said. “This is my third year helping them.” Kuhn said she helps the group with choreography and motivation.

Versailles junior Becca Todd added that she’s the “mother” of the Fijis. “I run around and help them with fixing costumes, etc,” she said. “If they’re doing stupid stuff, I worry. And if they’re doing stunts, I flip out.” Todd said the Fijis’ theme this year was “Truth or Dare,” and she helped out with some of the choreography. “They call me the creative genius,” she said. Richmond junior Malcolm Lunceford, Fiji member and performer, said that this is his third Spring Sing.

“My nerves are there, but they’ve calmed down this year,” he said. “After doing it for years, I know what to expect.” Versailles sophomore Grace Edwards, an Alpha Omicron Pi member, waited in the concession stand line before the performances began, her yellow t-shirt covered with red letters and glitter. The sorority’s theme this year was “Candyland.” Edwards said she helped work on the group’s choreography. She also helped pick out the people who would do costumes and props.

“I’m nervous but excited — really excited,” she said. “We definitely have a chance. Every sorority brings it. “I love it. It’s perfect for Greek Week. It’s a convocation.” After the first 11 performances, groups left Diddle Arena to catch their breath. Louisville freshman Hannah DeSpain, a Phi Mu member, sat on the steps of the bleachers among other members after they had just taken the stage. The group’s theme this year was the card game UNO. “I was nervous before we

“I’m nervous but excited — really excited. We definitely have a chance. Every sorority brings it.” —GRACE EDWARDS Versailles sophomore, Alpha Omicron Pi member

were on, but doing it I was excited,” she said. Louisville freshman Christina Abney, another member of Phi Mu, had just taken the stage. While Abney said she only helped with props, she felt that the group did very well. “There were a few logistical errors, but we masked them,” she said. Abney said that overall, Phi Mu gave one of the best performances. “We were basically flawless,” she said. “I pray to God we win.”

COLUMN

CONTINUED FROM DIVERSIONS

And on top of that, my friend and I were completely sober. It was a situation I thought would never happen to me, but then it happened to me. Some people have said I needed to be more alert, while others insist I could have “kicked the guy there” and “punched the guy here.” They don’t understand that it just doesn’t work like that. Luckily, my friend and I still had our passports, more money and credit cards at the hostel. The thieves who took my wristlet took my camera, metro pass and cash, throwing my

driver’s license and credit card on the ground. My friend lost her debit card, metro pass, cash and iPhone 4 and will probably never get them back. We don’t know yet if our travelers insurance can replace anything we lost. When the mugging happened, it felt like the worst thing in the world, but as the days have passed, it’s gotten better. We were scared to go into the metro for the rest of our trip, but we slowly realized how much worse things could have been. We could have been hurt, we could have been stranded, and we could have lost so much more.

NEWS BRIEF

Major, minors fair Wednesday for Health and Human Services The College of Health and Human Services will be hosting a majors, minors and student organizations fair on Wednesday. There will be representatives from departments including al-

lied health, communication disorders, public health, consumer and family sciences, kinesiology, recreation and sport, social work and nursing, said Donna Hey, director of Student Academic Services. The fair will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the courtyard of Downing University Center, or inside DUC in case of rain. — Joanna Williams



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GREEK WEEK 2011



DELAYNA EARLEY/HERALD

Members of Farmhouse fraternity dance to a medley of songs inspired by the board game "Hungry, Hungry Hippos" during Spring Sing on Sunday evening at Diddle Arena.

Let the games begin

Greek Week kicks off with Spring Sing

By LINDSAY KRIZ
news@chherald.com

WKU's Greek Week 2011 kicked off on Sunday evening with Jumanji dice, life-sized UNO cards and gigantic Battleship boards.

This year's Spring Sing — the starting point of Greek Week — was titled "Greekopoly," and each organization based its routine on a board game.

Sorority and fraternity members had eight minutes of dancing, singing and acting in Diddle Arena to prove to the judges that they had the best routine.

Lexington junior Tyler Goble, whose Delta Tau Delta group of 17 was the first to perform, said his fraternity began prepping the week be-

fore spring break.

Goble said their theme this year was the board game "Trouble."

"It's a story of guys who are in trouble and their redemption," he said.

Delta Tau Delta and 20 other organizations will now wait until this Sunday to hear the results.

Goble said his group practiced for two hours a day every weekday of last week.

"We learned by doing the first few songs at a time," he said. "We have to learn to sing and dance."

The Delts also practiced on Saturday for five hours and two hours on Sunday.

SEE SING, PAGE 9A



DELAYNA EARLEY/HERALD

Members of Alpha Delta Pi sorority dance to a selection of songs inspired by the board game and movie Jumanji during Spring Sing 2011 in Diddle Arena on Sunday evening.

COLUMN

Bad things happen to good travelers

By TESSA DUVALL
diversions@chherald.com

When I went to Barcelona a couple of weekends ago, I planned to spend all of my waking hours on the beach, trying to soak up all the sun England has deprived me of over the last three months.

Instead, I spent hours in a Spanish police station, crying and confused.

I wish I could tell you a funny story about some sort of shenanigans that landed me in the police station, but that's not how this story goes.

After eating a late dinner, a friend and I decided to check out

Wish you were here

This is the sixth in an occasional series of columns by two Herald reporters who are studying abroad this semester. They'll write about their experiences and provide insight for students who are considering studying abroad.

Barcelona's famous nightlife, which left much to be desired.

At about 2 a.m., we decided to take the metro back to our hostel.

By 2:30 a.m., we were running through the halls of the Vila Olímpica metro stop screaming for the policia.

As we were walking down into the metro, three men surrounded us, grabbed our wrists and ran.

My friend chased one of the thieves up and out of the metro, while my thieves ran further into the station. I pushed one of them, we screamed the whole time, and there were at least a dozen witnesses.

Despite our best efforts to stop them, the thieves got away.

There we were. No money, no metro passes, no phone and no knowledge of the Catalan language.

All we could do was yell "policia" and hope for the best.

After a couple of minutes, a Spanish woman and her Norwegian boyfriend stepped in to help us.

They talked to the information desk in the metro, drove us to the police station, translated to the police and wrote out a note for us to give to a cab driver explaining what happened and telling him we would pay with money at the hostel.

I've replayed the situation over and over in my head in the days since the mugging.

What could I have done to stop it or to change the course of events? The only conclusion I can reach is that it was beyond

my control.

I consider myself a fairly experienced traveler, having been to more than 30 states and nearly 20 countries in my 20 years. I know to pay attention to my surroundings, and I did just that.

The night of the incident, we were in a well-lit and busy metro with dozens of people around.

The guys who mugged us didn't look like typical thugs. They were well-dressed in nice jeans and leather jackets, like they were ready for a night out.

SEE COLUMN, PAGE 9A



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(Top) Senior Maggie Wilder is no longer playing soccer for WKU, but she is currently an assistant coach of the SKY soccer club in Bowling Green and plans to continue playing soccer in graduate school. Wilder missed an entire season because of an ACL injury that took nine months to heal. (Bottom) Junior Tiffany Elmore, middle hitter for WKU's volleyball team, is three months into recovering from a torn ACL and is limited in her activities but still makes a point to attend practices. "I like to know what's going on — being there and helping wherever I can," she said.

ELIZABETH FRANTZ/HERALD

TIMELINE OF AN ACL INJURY RECOVERY

- weeks1-2 (Athlete has surgery, then is on a brace and on crutches)
- weeks2-4 (In a brace, but not on crutches)
- week4 (Lose the brace and begin walking)
- weeks8-10 (Start jogging — at this point athlete should have 50-percent of strength back and all motion back in leg)
- weeks12-14 (Begin low-level plyometrics, or jumping and low-level agility)
- weeks16-24 (Begin high-level agility exercises)

Earliest return to sport is at **six months**; before that time, the athlete has a higher risk of tearing ligament again.

Source: physical therapist Cindy Hudson

TORN DREAMS

Three WKU athletes make long recovery from ACL injuries

By EMILY PATTON | sports@chherald.com

Junior volleyball player Tiffany Elmore said she got goosebumps on her arm just recalling how it happened. The middle hitter went up for a ball and hit it over the net during the first round of the 2010 NCAA tournament, just like she had done countless times since she started playing in the seventh grade. But this time, when the North Vernon, Ind., native came down from the spike, she felt a pain that she had never experienced before.

"It was just like any other hit," Elmore said. "I was going up to hit, and when I landed, it felt like my legs just went. I felt my kneecap pop in and out."

"Right then, I felt pain instantly. All of a sudden, I just dropped. I knew it wasn't right. I knew that kind of pain was not usual. I had pain before, but this was just the kind that hadn't happened before."

Days later, Elmore was diagnosed with a torn anterior cruciate ligament,

or ACL, which she said is an "athlete's worst fear."

It's an injury that affects multiple WKU athletes, like Elmore, who is in her third month of rehabilitation from surgery to repair the ligament.

Cindy Hudson, a physical therapist at WKU and wife of head volleyball coach Travis Hudson, said a torn ACL guarantees a minimum six-month recovery time, with some athletes taking up to a year to

return or not being able to return at all.

Cindy Hudson works with athletes during this recovery process.

"There are a high percentage of people who did it with non-contact," she said. "Meaning they aren't getting tackled on the football field. They don't come down on somebody. It just happens."

SEE INJURIES, PAGE 4B

TRACK & FIELD

WKU finds success in lone home meet



JOSH MAUSER/HERALD

Sophomore middle distance runner Brett Austin leads the group at the end of the second lap of a race at the Hilltopper Relays on Saturday. WKU hosts the event at the Ruter Track Complex, which was built in 2008.

By LUCAS AULBACH
sports@chherald.com

The WKU track and field teams were up against a familiar opponent last weekend for the first time this season — the heat.

But they also benefited from familiar surroundings, hosting the Hilltopper Relays on WKU's campus.

The teams found ways to cope with temperatures in the 80s during their lone home event of the season, which also turned out to be the warmest meet of the outdoor season thus far.

"It was kind of hard to run a good time out here today, but we hid under the bleachers and tried to keep as cool as possible," senior runner Rachel Friedman said.

The meet took place at the Ruter Track Complex, which was built in 2008 at the same time Houchens-Smith Stadium was renovated.

Head Coach Erik Jenkins said there are benefits to performing in Bowling Green, but it isn't a big advantage.

"I think more than anything else it gave our

team an opportunity to perform in front of our colleagues and compatriots," he said.

The WKU athletes took advantage of their home territory and were able to put up some big performances in several events, including the women's shot put and hammer throw. WKU took first, second and third in both events.

Junior thrower Monteka Flowers set a new WKU home record in the shot put with a winning throw of 48 feet, 9 inches.

In the javelin throw, junior Ignacio Guerra continued his recent hot streak with another first-place finish. The transfer from Chile holds the WKU and Chilean records in the event and is currently ranked the No. 1 javelin thrower in the NCAA.

"We had great performances all across the board," Jenkins said. "Ignacio Guerra threw very well today. I was very happy with the outcome."

The teams also had good showings in the 4x100 meter relay event, in which the women's team took first place, and the men's team came in second.

SEE SUCCESS, PAGE 4B

WKU takes series, second place in Sun Belt from ULL

By BRAD STEPHENS
sports@chherald.com

A lot was on the line for WKU when Louisiana-Lafayette came to Nick Denes Field over the weekend.

The Toppers went into Friday having lost three of their last four Sun Belt Conference games, and they were tied with the Ragin' Cajuns for second place in the league standings.

But after winning two of the weekend's three games, WKU now sits alone in second place, one game ahead of ULL and three games behind surprising league leader Troy.

The Toppers won Friday's series opener 5-1 behind the first complete game of freshman pitcher Justin Hageman's career.

Senior catcher Matt Rice and junior center fielder Kes Carter both hit home runs for WKU in the game.

Rice was also the hero Saturday, as his RBI single in the eighth inning broke a 1-1 deadlock and produced a 2-1 Topper win.

The Toppers had their best offensive output of the series Sunday with six runs on 10 hits.

But the WKU bullpen conceded six runs in the game's last four innings, and the Ragin' Cajuns were able to get an 8-6 win to fend off the series sweep.

Topper Head Coach Chris Finwood said that following the loss, he was still

pleased with his team's efforts for the weekend.

"Getting beat Sunday leaves a bad taste in your mouth," Finwood said. "But they were fighting for their lives today just to win one, so you've got to give them the credit. Those were two really evenly matched clubs, and we were just happy to win the series."

While Finwood was satisfied with the series result, Topper fans were also glad to see junior shortstop Logan Robbins back on the field.

Robbins had missed WKU's last six games coming into the weekend while nursing a case of phlebitis in his left foot.

He didn't record a hit Friday or Saturday but came back strong in the series finale, going 3-for-4 with an RBI, a run scored and three stolen bases.

Robbins, who is second on the team with a .382 batting average in Sun Belt play, said it felt nice to be back in the Topper lineup.

"I missed the guys like crazy last week," he said. "Being away from them really hurt, so to be back out here was fun."

The Toppers got Monday off before turning around to play at Austin Peay tonight and hosting Murray State Wednesday night.

Start times for both games are 6 p.m.

Melissa Anderson, assistant director of media relations, confirmed Monday that both today and Wednesday will be



JABIN E. BOTSFORD/HERALD

WKU senior catcher Matt Rice slides safely into home during the Toppers' game against Louisiana-Lafayette at Nick Denes Field on Sunday afternoon. WKU lost 8-6.

so-called "staff days," with several pitchers splitting the workload in each game.

Sophomore pitcher Taylor Haydel will start tonight against the Governors. He is 3-2 with a 7.08 ERA over 15 appearances.

He and the other Topper pitchers will try to shut down the Austin Peay lineup for the second time this season, as WKU

defeated the Governors 5-2 on March 22.

Robbins said his team will have plenty of momentum going into the week after winning the ULL series.

"Our goal is always to win the series," Robbins said. "We went out there, and we did that. Our guys really played well this weekend, and I'm proud of the way we played."

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JABIN E. BOTSFORD/HERALD

Andrew Swanson jumps to dodge a ball during WKU's third game against Saginaw Valley State University on Saturday afternoon at the 2011 National College Dodgeball Association tournament at the Preston Center. WKU lost 2-1.

Dodgeball hosts nationals

By COLE CLAYBOURN
sports@chherald.com

WKU alumnus and Dodgeball Club founder Josh Raymer admitted that when he started the team in 2006, it was "pretty terrible."

So bad that in the team's first year, it didn't play in any tournaments and only competed in intrasquad games.

In 2007, WKU officially joined the National Collegiate Dodgeball Association, but things didn't get much easier. The team went 0-7 that season and held the record for the worst loss in league history, 16-0.

But four years later, the team is No. 3 in the nation and was a favorite in this past weekend's NCDAA Dodgeball National Championships, which WKU hosted at the Preston Center.

Assistant Captain Andrew Swanson said the players adopted a new, winning approach and decided they wanted to take it more seriously than they had in the past.

"It was really awesome to see the feedback from our players who accepted the seriousness," he said. "After last semester, we asked what everyone's goals were. They all said they wanted to win nationals."

First, they started by moving from one practice a week to three.

Then they started learning how good teams played.

Raymer said when he started the club, they just went out and played with no plan of action.

"We didn't know strategy," he said. "We didn't know how to throw or block either."

To remedy that, Team Captain Felix Perrone said they went as far as to study film of other good teams to emulate what worked well for them.

Elizabethtown junior Tyler Jury said it got to a point where the players just wanted to win.

"We just got guys that were tired of being mediocre and wanted to be excellent," he said. "We just started committing more."

On top of that, WKU added more games to its schedule — games against top teams.

"One of the best things is to take your team to play a really good team," Perrone said. "That way they can see how they play and adopt things from them."

This season, WKU played 11 games before last weekend's tournament — the most it's played in a season since its inception in 2006.

That also meant traveling farther to play games, including one to Western Illinois this season, a 7 1/2 hour drive.

Perrone said that's the farthest the team has ever traveled for a game other than nationals.

What started out as essentially an intramural team had become much more.

Despite it being a club sport, Swanson said the players consider themselves the official WKU dodgeball team.

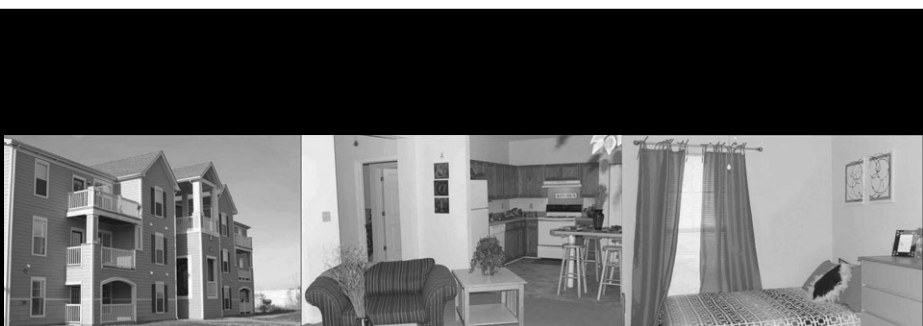
"We take pride in it," he said. "These guys really take it as something they can be proud of. We want them to say, 'Hey, I was in college, and I played dodgeball, and I loved it.'"

WKU lost 3-0 on Sunday to Saginaw Valley State — one of the nation's top teams — in the second round of the national tournament.

But the fact that WKU could remain competitive with them this year after losing to them 9-0 two years ago is a testament to how far the WKU dodgeball team has come, Raymer said.

"You always dream that when you start something, it will grow and turn into something people can get excited for," he said. "I never expected it to happen this soon."

"This is only the team's fifth year of existence. So for it to be what it is now, this early in the development process, is really amazing."



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Freshman Zach Michaud participates in the hammer throw during Saturday's home track and field event. The Hilltopper Relays, which Head Coach Erik Jenkins said he'd like to continue to take place on the second weekend in April, is the only event WKU hosts each season.

JOSH MAUSER/HERALD

SUCCESS

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

While the competition was made up of teams in the region such as Bellarmine, Eastern Illinois and Kentucky State, Jenkins said the teams included some of the better track and field athletes nationally.

“A young man from Eastern Illinois moved up to second place in the country in the pole vault on our track,” he said. “Whenever you start having those types of performances at your facility, then it warrants other schools to want to come and participate.”

While the teams were able to beat the heat, they also had to battle injuries. Senior runner Vasily Chemweno sat out with a bruised quadricep, and freshman Allison Riedling said she was just returning after suffering a stress fracture in her shin bone.

“I’m just coming back from an injury, so this is my second race in six months,” she said. “I’m pretty happy

about how I did.”

Riedling stressed the importance of athletes taking care of themselves during a hot meet.

“You have to stay hydrated,” she said. “I drank like three water bottles before this.”

Jenkins said the program hopes to continue to host the Hilltopper Relays and will try to do so on the same weekend next year.

“We’re gonna try to keep it on the second week of April,” he said. “That way we can start a tradition and people know to come down here on this weekend.”

Next week the teams will split up and perform at a few different meets across the country. Jenkins said this weekend’s meet should serve as an important stepping stone to the Sun Belt Conference championships.

“Obviously we have a lot of work to do to be championship ready,” he said. “We gotta get healthy, but being at home, having good weather and having good teams helps in the preparation.”

INJURIES

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

ACL tears happen more commonly in females than in males. Cindy Hudson said research shows it could be related to the sex’s wider hips or that many are on their menstrual cycles when the injury happens.

Some sports also post higher numbers of the injury than others, like soccer.

“It is a combination with soccer,” Cindy Hudson said. “Contact and females. In football, you tend to see more ACLs due to contact. But if you look at basketball, it tends to be no one around them when it happened.”

WKU soccer player Maggie Wilder said she knows all about contact injuries. She broke her leg colliding with another player in May 2007 and then tore her ACL going in for a tackle in June 2008.

Wilder, who is now a senior, took 10 months to be cleared to play again. During that time, she attended two-hour therapy sessions five days a week and saw little progress.

“I knew I would come back, but I was afraid it was going to be different. And it was,” Wilder said. “I lost a whole bunch of my speed, and it was rougher. It just wasn’t the same, but I

do get to still play.”

Her story is similar to sophomore football player Courtney Dalcourt, who tore his ACL not just once but twice and still hasn’t played a live game for WKU.

Dalcourt first blew out the knee in fall camp two years ago, missed the entire 2009 season and returned in the spring of 2010 just to have the injury happen again.

As he prepares for this season, Dalcourt said the knee still “has its days” where it bothers him.

“Rehab, with ACL injuries, it doesn’t stop,” he said. “It never stops. There are always areas you can get better. I’m probably a year out from my last surgery, and I’m still not there yet, but I’m working on it.”

Cindy Hudson said an athlete gaining confidence in his or her play after an injury is just another part of the rehab process.

During the 16-to-24 week stage of rehab, she said she will have athletes perform exercises similar to how they injured the knee.

“It is not only muscular memory, but it is also a confidence builder that gets them past, ‘This is how I tore it, I don’t want to do it again,’” she said.

Both Wilder and Dalcourt echoed the thought that if you play timid, you

are more likely to get hurt again.

“I think that’s probably why I tore mine the second time,” Dalcourt said. “Not having confidence in it and coming back a bit too early. It is just a mental game. Once you get out there and get your first hit on it — get that first good cut on it — you’re fine.”

Cindy Hudson said she didn’t believe a torn ACL meant the athlete would never be the same again — it would just be “challenging” for him or her to do so.

“There is a constant process to keep them at the level where they can play Division I athletics,” she said. “It is a time commitment to them. It is not just, ‘I got my six months rehab in, I’m done.’ They are going to be in the training room for the rest of their careers.”

Cindy Hudson’s husband, Travis, has seen the injury occur more than once to athletes during his 16 years as a head volleyball coach.

Although athletes may lose something physically, they typically return mentally stronger, he said.

And while the goosebumps haven’t gone away for Elmore yet, Travis Hudson said he expects a strong return from her.

“You never want to see kids go through it,” Travis Hudson said. “You always love having them in the gym.

“

Rehab, with ACL injuries, it doesn’t stop. It never stops. There are always areas you can get better. I’m probably a year out from my last surgery, and I’m still not there yet, but I’m working on it.”

—COURTNEY DALCOURT
Sophomore football player

There are many, many times throughout my career where I’ve had a kid who had to sit and watch, and they came back a better player.

“They sit there, and they see things that you just don’t see when you are out on the court. Anything that Tiffany would lose physically, she will gain mentally. I anticipate her having a fantastic senior year.”

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SOFTBALL

Lady Tops try to shake off three losses at Troy

By NICK BRATCHER
sports@chherald.com

The Lady Toppers ventured to Troy for a three-game series last weekend, trying to follow a midweek split against Samford with some success in the Sun Belt Conference.

But WKU fell short, getting swept by the Trojans over three games.

The Lady Toppers first lost both games of Saturday's doubleheader, 1-0 in the first and 7-6 in the second. They then dropped the series finale on Sunday, 9-0, in six innings.

A multitude of problems plagued WKU throughout the weekend.

The Lady Toppers managed just two hits in their shutout loss that opened the weekend.

Then WKU actually out-hit Troy in its second game, 11-8, but still came up short, lacking timely hitting.

In their third game, the pitching staff gave up eight walks, and Head Coach Tyra Perry said that number buried the team's chances.

Sophomore outfielder Katrina Metoyer said the Lady Toppers' numbers were evident to the team.

"One moment our hitting is there, but our fielding isn't, and the next, our hitting is there but our pitching isn't," she said. "We need to have consistency."

Junior Amanda Walden said the Lady Toppers' woes didn't stem from lack of effort, though.

"We came out here hoping we would get three wins, and we obviously didn't do that," she said. "We were confident and had the heart and everything we need to win, but we just couldn't put a couple things together."



METOYER

Perry said the team's problems were multiplied by the close losses sustained on Saturday.

"We needed both games Saturday to spark us for Sunday instead of being down, but we couldn't quite get those wins," Perry said.

WKU fell to eighth place in the Sun Belt with the losses, seven games behind first-place Louisiana-Lafayette.

Perry said the team needed to look past the setback and keep pressing on through the season's remaining conference games.

"We're still in it," she said. "We have to keep competing because we have four series — that's 12 games — left, and we have to keep playing."

The next three-game series comes this weekend at Florida International, starting with a doubleheader at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Saturday. The final game will be at 11 a.m. Sunday.

Metoyer said the in-conference pressure may be getting to the players because the team is so young.

"We are a young team," she said. "I don't ever think about it because it's just another game to me, but pressure could be getting to some of our younger players."

Walden said she was optimistic about the future as long as the team kept in mind why it plays the game in the first place.

"We have to play like it's a game we love to play in order for us to win," she said. "It's hard, especially losing by so little Saturday, but hopefully we'll get it together and start winning again."

Perry said the team's recent funk can't be instantly fixed with extra work. But she said that's only because the team has already learned what it needs to win.

"We're all going to have to work together and believe in each other to come out of this," she said.

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